

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /143 W

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R 101040Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2852

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3797

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR US MO SS

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA - LARAKI VISIT TO U.S.

1. LOCAL MEDIA REACTION TO FON MIN LARAKI'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON AUGUST 6 AND 7 HAS THUS FAR BEEN RELATIVELY SUBDUED AND STRAIGHTFORWARD. FON MIN'S MEETINGS WITH SECY AUG 7 AND DEP SECY AUG 6 SUBJECT OF FACTUAL REPORTS NOTING THAT LARAKI INFORMED USG OF BACKGROUND AND MOROCCAN POSITION ON SAHARAN ISSUE. SECY, ACCORDING TO LARAKI COMMENTS PUBLISHED HERE, SHARED COMMON CONCERN FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN REGION. SECY SAID TO HAVE EXPRESSED HIS GREAT INTEREST IN MOROCCAN "DOSSIER". WASHINGTON TALKS ALSO REPORTEDLY INCLUDED REVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, AND CURRENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, BUT THERE NO ELABORATION.

2. ON OTHER HAND, MORE PROMINENT PLAY DEVOTED TO LARAKI'S EFFORTS AT UN, WHERE HE REPORTED PLANNING TO
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RAISE SAHARA QUESTION AFTER OPENING OF UNGA. SEMI-

OFFICIAL MOROCCAN PRESS AGENCY (MAP FOCUSED ON DINNER SPEECH AUG 7 FOR SC MEMBERS, IN WHICH LARAKI STRESSED GOM'S UNWILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE ON PRINCIPLE OF MOROCCAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER SAHARA AND THAT GOM WOULD NOT TOLERATE CREATION OF PUPPET STATE. LARAKI, HOWEVER, ALSO DECLARED MOROCCO'S DESIRE TO OPEN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN ON SUBJECT. IF ALL ELSE FAILS "A MILITARY SOLUTION IS NOT TO BE RULED OUT," LARAKI QUOTED AS WARNING.

3. COMMENT: STRESS HERE ON LARAKI'S TOUGH REMARKS AT UN, WHILE ENTAILING KNOWN GOM POSITIONS, TENDS TO GIVE LOCAL AUDIENCE IMPRESSION THAT LARAKI DEMONSTRATED FIRMNESS IN PRESENTING MOROCCAN CASE IN THE U.S. THIS SORT OF COVERAGE ALSO PRESUMABLY SERVES PURPOSE OF FUZZING OVER SOMEWHAT FACT OF USG DISCRETION ON SAHARA ISSUE.
COON

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